IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as indicated by replacing each respective paragraph currently of record in the specification with the corresponding paragraph as follows:

[0007] Recently, ferromagnetic frame magnets having horizontal pole axes have been developed. As disclosed, for example, in commonly assigned United States Patent Nos. 6,414,490 and 6,677,753, the disclosures of which ~~is~~ are incorporated by reference herein, ~~and in copending, commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/718,946, filed on November 22, 2000, the disclosure of which is also incorporated by reference herein,~~ a magnet having poles spaced apart from one another along a horizontal axis provides a horizontally oriented magnetic field within a patient-receiving gap between the poles. Such a magnet can be used with a patient positioning device including elevation and tilt mechanisms to provide extraordinary versatility in patient positioning. For example, where the patient positioning device includes a bed or similar device for supporting the patient in a supine or recumbent position, the bed can be tilted and/or elevated so as to image the patient in essentially any position between a fully standing position and a fully recumbent position, and can be elevated so that essentially any portion of the patient's anatomy is disposed within the gap in an optimum position for imaging. As further disclosed in the aforesaid applications, the patient positioning device may include additional elements such as a platform projecting from the bed to support the patient when the bed is tilted towards a standing orientation. Still other patient supporting devices can be used in place of a bed in a system of this type. Thus, magnets of this type provide extraordinary versatility in imaging.

[0015] In addition to apparatuses for magnetic resonance imaging described above, U. S. Patent No. 5,008,624 issued to Yoshida on April 16, 1991(the "Yoshida patent") and discloses a magnet having a pair of super conductor blocks one facing each other placed at two ends of a metallic U-shaped frame. Yoshida's magnet further includes a patient carrier in the form of a chair equipped with a lifting mechanism and a reclining mechanism. Yoshida further discloses that by rotating the U-Shaped frame ~~to~~ of the magnet or by lifting up and down the patient carrier with lifting mechanism, various relative orientations of the main magnet and the patient carrier are realizable.

[0030] FIG. 3 shows a schematic front view of a magnetic resonance imaging apparatus 300 in accordance with an aspect of the present invention. Magnetic resonance imaging apparatus 300 comprises a U-shaped magnet 302 that is movably mounted to a pair of screw jacks or shafts 306 by mounting sleeve 310. At one end of the screw jacks 306 is a support structure 312. At the other end of the screw~~s~~ jack<u>s</u> 306 are motors 314.

[0032] The magnet 302 further includes a pair of pole faces 325 and 327 that define a patient receiving space or gap 330. A patient support 333 may be positioned within the gap 330. Alternatively, a patient may stand within the gap 330 without the aid of a patient support. Preferably, prior to positioning a patient 336 within the gap 330, a static magnetic field <u>338</u> is created across the pole faces 325 and 327 (in a horizontal direction). Most preferably, the static magnetic field is maintained even when a patient is not positioned in the gap. Alternatively, once the patient 336 is positioned within the gap 330, either by using the support 333 or by standing, the static magnet field may be created across the gap 330.

Relatively small magnetic field gradients may then be imposed on the static magnetic field to obtain images of the anatomical region of interest as described hereinabove. The patient support 336 preferably includes a step or foot support 337 for supporting the patient 336 in the standing position, however a seat may be provided for supporting the patient in a sitting position. Patient support 336 may also optionally include straps or other suitable restraints to restrict or control the movement of the patient during scanning.

Please replace paragraph [0035], with the following paragraph:

[0035] FIG. 4 shows a schematic front view of a magnetic resonance imaging apparatus 400 in accordance with another aspect of the present invention. Magnetic resonance imaging apparatus 400 comprises a superconducting solenoidal magnet 402 that is movably mounted to a pair of screw jacks or shafts 406 by mounting sleeve 410. At one end of the screw jacks 406 is a support structure 412. At the other end of the screws jacks 406 are motors 414.

[0038] Once a patient 436 is properly positioned within the patient gap 430 a static magnet field 439 is caused to occur across the gap 430. Relatively small magnetic field gradients may then be imposed on the static magnetic field to obtain images of the anatomical region of interest as described hereinabove. Preferably, the static magnetic field is always on to avoid having to re-energize the coils of the magnet each time a patient is to be scanned. Accordingly, the coils will preferably be energized at the start of the day and left on until the end of the day.